

REMARKS

Pursuant to the telephonic interview between Applicant's attorney and Examiner Chang on April 26, 2004, claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, and 15 have been amended. Claim 12 has also been amended as indicated in the remarks of Amendment B.

In each of claims 1, 6 and 11, the following language:

~~when said target node is in the state capable of providing service, returning a reject reply by attaching thereto new reject time information in response to any first request received before retry requests arising previously rejected requests are all accepted.~~

has been amended to the following:

at said target node staying in the state capable of providing service, when the retry request is received, processing said retry request while when a first request is received, returning a second reject reply by attaching thereto new reject time information.

These amendments are made for stylistic purposes. As per our discussion, one example of support for "new" reject time information can be found at page 2, line 16 of the written description as filed.

Claims 5, 10 and 15 were amended to include "from the target node" for stylistic reasons.

Claim 12 is amended to indicate the change of replacing "consisting of" with "comprising" referred to in the remarks of Amendment B. Although the claim was identified as "Currently Amended" in Amendment B and the amendment was indicated in the remarks, the amendment did not appear in the claim itself.

Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance of all of the pending claims 1-15 as amended and, therefore, a prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully

requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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